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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/240,844	02/01/1999	JEFFREY A. SMITH	1960.103	7867

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EXAMINER

VU, KIEU D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

26

DATE MAILED: 12/23/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/240,844

Applicant(s)

SMITH ET AL.

Examiner

Kieu D Vu

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 9-14, 20-27, and 34-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Brown et al ("Brown", USP 6405192)

Regarding claims 9 and 21, Brown teaches a system for providing a GUI for a component-based application program comprising

a plurality of user interface components (see menus 504 or references 508 including user display settings or navigation 506 in figure 5),

a document viewer (browser as shown in figure 11) for displaying a document, the document viewer having a user interface requirement specifications (see user configured display references or user criteria in figure 7A, step 710, col. 6, line 64 to col. 7, line 15) referencing at least one user interface components (display settings),

a renderer (figure 5, rendering unit 522) to render a GUI for the component-based application program according to the user requirement specification (user

configured display settings and/or user criteria) when the viewer is added as a component-based application program without a need to recompile or reinstall the component-based application program (see figure 11, col. 10, line 25-44 which teaches that a separate windows/viewer is added to enable the viewing of the thumbnail images of the linked pages and an information summary indicating which of the user criteria were found in each page. In this case, clearly there is no need to recompile or reinstall the component-based application program).

Regarding claim 35, Brown further teaches application proxy (figure 5, col. 5, lines 58-61, graphical display 518) to manage communications between the renderer (522), viewer (browser display controlled by window manager 524) and one interface component (layout 520 which controls the display settings) such that said GUI is rendered upon a change in the present context (change such as the opening of a second window).

Regarding claim 42, Brown teaches the a method for creating a GUI for an application program comprising

providing of a viewer for displaying a document, the document viewer having a user interface requirement specifications (see user configured display references or user criteria in figure 7A, step 710, col. 6, line 64 to col. 7, line 15) referencing at least one user interface component (display settings) in at least one context for the program,

defining a GUI layout for the user interface components defining the position and arrangement for the component in said context (GUI layout 522 defining the display settings configured by the user in the context of the user criteria)

instantiating at least one user interface component and associating it with at least one program component (in figure 11, at least user interface navigation is associated with the main browser window, namely at least one program component) (in the second window, no navigation tool is shown).

determining a present context of the program and rendering the GUI in accordance with said GUI layout defined for the present context (in the second window, the GUI is rendered in accordance with the layout defined for the second window; see figure 11, col. 10, lines 26-44).

rerendering the GUI each time the present context of the program changes (the user interface requirement specification can be added or modified any time. Step 710 can be executed each time the user access the browser. Thus, each time that the user adds or modifies the user interface requirement specification, the system will record such addition/modification and renders the GUI accordingly).

Regarding claims 10 and 22 Brown teaches registering user interface components associated with said user interface requirement specification (see figure 5, step 710 for the teaching of recording the user configured criteria preferences and display settings) with a workflow manager (unit that implements step 710).

Regarding claims 11 and 25, Brown further teaches a button (see a plurality of buttons in the third row of browser in figure 11).

Regarding claims 12 and 26, Brown further teaches a slider (see the slider in right side of browser in figure 9).

Regarding claims 13 and 27, Brown further teaches an edit box (see the "Edit" feature in the second row of the browser in figure 11).

Regarding claims 20, 34 and 36-37, Brown further teaches that his browser is also applicable to DHTML format (see col. 12, lines 9-19).

Regarding claims 23 and 24, the user interface requirement specification can be added or modified any time. Step 710 can be executed each time the user access the browser. Thus, each time that the user adds or modifies the user interface requirement specification, the system will record such addition/modification and renders the GUI accordingly.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 14-16, 28-30 and 39-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown and Vallejo (USP 6545691).

Regarding claims 14, 28 and 40, although Brown does not explicitly teaches ActiveX control, such feature is old and well known in the art of browser as evidenced by Vallejo. Vallejo teaches activeX control for the purpose of providing functionality not directly available in HTML, such as drawing reports/charts, animation sequences, spreadsheet calculations (col 1, lines 10-25, lines 42-60). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Brown and Vallejo before him at

the time the invention was made to implement activeX control as taught by Vallejo in Brown's browser with the motivation being to achieve those above-mentioned advantages.

6. Claims 15-19, 29-33, 39, and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown.

Regarding claims 15-16, 29-30, 39, and 41, although Brown does not explicitly states Java Applet and JavaScript, such small Java programs (states Java Applet and JavaScript) are old and well known in the art for their portability and effectiveness. Brown also suggests that Java programs (i.e. Java applets, JavaScript) may be run in Brown's system (see col. 5, lines 10-18). Thus, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to implement those well-known Java program such as Java applets and Java Scripts in Brown's browser with the motivation being to utilize their portability and effectiveness.

Regarding claims 17-19 and 31-33, although Brown does not explicitly teaches the implementation of the viewer as a COM object, a DCOM object or a CORBA object, each of those object types is old and well known in the art for its unique format and advantage. Thus, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to implement the Brown's viewer as one of those well known object types with the motivation being to utilize the advantages associated with those type of objects.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kieu D. Vu whose telephone number is (703-605-1232). The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu from 7:00AM to 3:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached on (703- 308-3116).

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703)-872-9306

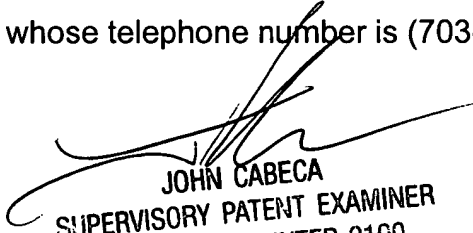
and / or:

(703)-746-5639 (use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper / amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions)

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703-305-3900).

Kieu D. Vu

12/15/03


JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100